

5.2 Appendix B – Non-County Stakeholder Equipment Summary

The Project Manager contacted several non-county stakeholders to determine the radio equipment they have in place in the ten-county Eastern Tier area. This information is in a less structured format than that information determined through the questionnaires and site surveys. It is presented here in the belief that members of the ETIC have an interest in this information.

5.2.4 The United States Bureau Of Land Management (BLM)

Person(s) Contacted: Dave Blanch, BLM “radio shop guy” in Billings. 406-896-5367

The BLM seems quite willing, even anxious, to share any space they might have available on their towers and within their buildings. The consortium should feel free to contact them again and initiate discussions.

The BLM has something south of Alzada on Terry Peak and Warren Peak in Wyoming.

5.2.5 The Montana Department of Natural Resources Conservation (DNRC)

Person(s) Contacted: Eric Lasell, State DNRC Communications Engineer in Missoula: 406-542-4211.

The DNRC has not sites of their own in the eastern part of the state. They share the following sites:

- Congur Hill (Ekalaka) with the US Forest Service.
- Home Creek with the BLM. MDOT may own this site.
- Big Sheep Mt. (NW of Terry) with Prairie County.
- North of Plevna (Prairie County) with the city of Plevna.

5.2.6 The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

Person(s) Contacted: Bruce Brown in Billings: 406-256-7990

The FBI has no sites of their own in eastern Montana. They share the following sites with others:

- Sheep Mt., Prairie County.
- Alzada
- Ekalaka (Tower Hill)
- Airport at Miles City controls the Sheep Mt. site.
- Richland County (Sioux Pass)
- City of Fallon (Prairie County)



Bruce indicated that the FBI sometimes has “parts money.” He also offered, in his words, to “help as much as I can.”

5.2.7 Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

Person(s) Contacted: Capt. Mike Moore, 406-234-0917
Mike Herman, 406-228-3718
Mark Earnhardt, 406-444-2456e

Capt. Moore explained that the FWP no longer have any structures in the eastern part of the state except for a billboard in Wibaux with an “auto-broadcast” running. According to him, FWP also has needs in the eastern part of the state.

Mike Herman is more of a radio guy. He said “north of the river” (the Missouri) they have no equipment. He was also not aware of any towers in the ETIC counties. Mike indicated that Mark Earnhardt in Helena would be the person to contact if the consortium wished to see about using FWP lands. Mark has experience working with the Northern Tier project.

5.2.8 Montana Department of Livestock

Person(s) Contacted: Jack Wiseman, 406-444-2925

The Project Manager was not successful at getting Livestock to return his calls.

5.2.9 Montana Department of Transportation (MDOT)

Person(s) Contacted: Kevin Bruski, 406-444-6305

The MDOT has several sites in eastern Montana which may be of some use to the consortium, but none within the ten-county area. There are several east and north of the consortium.

5.2.10 Montana Highway Patrol (MHP)

Person(s) Contacted: Dale Osborne, 406-896-4364
Cal Shick, Billings – Said to talk to Dale

The MHP use the following sites:

- Baker Big M Tower.
- Sidney Big M Tower.
- Highway Dept. building outside of Circle (Lindsay Ridge).
- Older 160’ tower (MDOT building) on 200.



- Big Sheep Mt. (BLM site)
- Northern Tier Tower at Wolf Point – Base Station with phone
- Fort Peck Repeater – Very congested.
- Culbertson Repeater
- Scoby & Plentywood
- Sioux Pass (Richland Co.) – Two buildings, one not being used.

See also the questionnaire filled out by MHP in Section 4.1.14, *Non-County Stakeholders*.

5.2.11 United States Forest Service (USFS)

Person(s) Contacted: Doug King, 406-758-5242
Mike Pendergrass,
Office: 406-657-6205 x 271
Cell: 406-855-2007

I spoke with Mike concerning the USFS presence in eastern Montana.

They have the following sites:

- Congur Hill (Ekalaka) – They own a 90' monopole with a 10x12 building. It is shared with the DNRC.
- Tri-Point Lookout (Long Pine) – Southeast of Ekalaka. They own an 80' tower with a 10x12 building.
- South Dakota (Slim Butte) – Just east of Buffalo, SD. Forest Service land, South Dakota facilities. 80' tower, 10x16 building.
- Ft. Howe Ranger Station – 80-100' tower with an 8x8 building. Highway 484, 20 miles south of highway 212 on Otter Creek Road. Shared with and owned by the BLM.
- Home Creek – This is their main site. 110' tower with a 10x20 building. Shared with DNRC, MHP, FBI, and BLM. New building. Owned by BLM.
- Lyscom Butte – They own a 40' tower with an 8x6 building. This is a solar-powered site.
- New building at Ashland – They share this with Rosebud County. Administrative District Office. Location is the confluence of Cow Creek and Otter Creek. 60' tower, with an 8x8 building.
- Poker Jim – Highway 566 near the town of Briney. They own this site. 60' tower with an 8x8 building.
- Government Hill – Owned by BLM. 120' tower with a 10x16 building.

A North Dakota site would help the USFS. Possibly Sentinel Butte.